

It took President Wilson just 28 minutes by the house clock to read his message to Congress last Tuesday. He dealt solely with matters of progressive legislation which failed of action at the first session and are still on the calendar, and on matters pertaining to the railroad situation. It was one of the shortest messages ever presented to congress, and was as handsomely received.

Contrary to expectation now that he has the certificate of election, Judge Argus Cox, who was given the certificate as a member of the Springfield Court of Appeals, for reason of a plurality made possible by either a bone-head mistake or an error made on purpose in the Maries county voting, says that John H. Bradley, who was the Democratic candidate against him, has slept on his rights and will have to go before the court to make a case, as he now has no recourse at law and should not trouble him with a contest for the place. But then Judge Cox does not have the final say about the matter, as the Supreme Court is to untangle it. While Mr. Bradley, on the technical points may not be entitled to the Maries county vote, on the points of justice and honesty he is, as a canvasser of the Democratic vote in Maries county shows the fact that they supposed they were and that they intended voting for the regularly nominated Democratic candidate, John H. Bradley, and that they neither intended to vote nor do they want their votes counted for Judge Arch Johnson, and they express the opinion that their votes should be counted for Mr. Bradley, as it was their intention to vote for him. Hell may be paved with good intentions, as the saying is, but the courts of the country have always held that the intent of the voter must be taken into consideration in counting the ballots.

P. J. Burford expects to have his lighting plant ready for use by the middle of the coming week, about the 15th instant. He is getting material on the ground for rebuilding his mill plant and will begin work on it soon.

The Ladies Aid Society of the Presbyterian church made a big success out of their annual bazaar, white goods sale and chicken dinner, held in the Tom Bennett building last Tuesday. They had a lot of handsome stuff for sale and served an excellent meal, clearing a little over \$300.00.

DRIVES 11 MILES FOR MAIL

Stubborn Kansas Farmer Will Not Allow Rural Carrier to Bring It.

Smith Centre, Kan.—Frank Nichols lives on Route No. 5 out of this city. For years Nichols has stubbornly refused to have his mail come by carrier, although a route runs right by his door.

Each Saturday he makes the 11-mile drive from home and gets his mail out of the post office here.

He insists the carrier system is an unnecessary expense to the government and that it is putting false and injurious notions into the rising generations on the farms.

Opens Dating From 1800.

"Eurydice" was the first Italian opera ever performed in public, and the work excited an extraordinary amount of attention. The score was first published in Florence in 1800 and was dedicated to Marie de Medici, and it was printed in 1808 in Venice, a copy of the latter being well preserved in the library of the British Museum.

Constipation Causes Bad Skin

A dull and pimply skin is due to a sluggish bow movement. Constipation and skin troubles are closely connected. Dr. King's New Life Pills will cure you a full, free, and healthy movement in the morning. Drive out the dirt, and the complexion will improve. Get a bottle to-day. At all Druggists, Etc.

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA

NEW POLICY NEEDED IN GOVERNMENT RAILWAY CONTROL

Helpfulness and Encouragement
Urged by Alfred P. Thom.

CREDIT MUST BE IMPROVED

Increase of Transportation Facilities
Necessary to Secure Relief From
High Cost of Living May Thus Be
Provided For by the Railroads.

Washington, Nov. 28.—A new policy of government railroad regulation, based on constructive principles of helpfulness and encouragement instead of upon principles of repression and punishment, was urged by Alfred P. Thom, counsel for the Railway Executives' Advisory Committee, the first witness on behalf of the railroads before the Newlands Joint Committee on Interstate Commerce, which has instituted a general inquiry into the problems of railroad regulation.

"It is proposed by the joint resolution of Congress," said Mr. Thom, "to go into a comprehensive study of the whole subject of transportation, to make a new assessment, after 20 years of experiment, of its history, its present conditions and its future needs. The railroads accept the view that regulation is a permanent and enduring part of government in America and that the first duty of the carriers is to the public. That duty is to afford reasonable facilities on reasonable terms and at reasonable rates, and this must be done before any private interests can be considered."

Certainty, Safety and Sufficiency. Mr. Thom contended that the real interest of the public is in being assured of certainty, safety and sufficiency of transportation facilities, rather than in rates. The first consideration of the public is to obtain transportation facilities. What the cost is, is in reality a second consideration, he said.

Mr. Thom proposed an increase of transportation facilities as a method of securing relief from the high cost of living. "There have been less than 1,000 miles of new railroad constructed in the United States during the past year," he said, "less than in any year since 1848, except the period of the Civil War, and yet the cost of living is daily advancing owing to a shortage of supplies which might be remedied by securing access to new areas of production."

Credit Must Be Improved. "This leads to the consideration as to whether railroad credit is as good as the public interest requires. It is impossible for railroads to earn enough to supply the necessary new facilities from current revenue. They must be provided from credit. Investors cannot be coerced, but must be attracted."

Among the conditions affecting railroad credit which deter investors he mentioned the following:

"First, Railroad revenues are not controlled by investors, but are fixed and limited by governmental authority and not by one but by several governmental authorities, which do not recognize responsibility for assured results to investors and are uncoordinated."

"Second, Railroads cannot control and the government cannot and does not limit the expense account."

"Third, The present system of regulation is based on a policy of regulation and correction and not on a policy of helpfulness and encouragement."

"Fourth, The outstanding obligations of the railroads have already exceeded the financial rule of safety and involve a disproportionate amount of obligations bearing fixed charges."

"Fifth, The investor must accept a subordinate obligation or security with no assurance of a surplus of earnings to support it."

"Sixth, Other competitive lines of investment present superior attractions."

"Seventh, The railroad business is largely controlled by political instead of business considerations."

Look Forward, Not Back.

"We may debate about what has caused the present conditions," said Mr. Thom, "but we cannot debate about what the people need. The President has taken the view that we must look forward in this matter and make a fresh assessment of circumstances in order to deal helpfully and intelligently with the problem. Abuses are no more prevalent in the railroad business today than in any other business humbly conducted. The great question now is whether the existing system of regulation gives the public reliable assurance of sufficient present and future railroad facilities."

"Those who oppose any change must make their appeal on the ground that the present system assures the public of the continued adequacy of transportation facilities. If they do not, no argument based on the desirability of the present dual system of regulation will be accepted by public judgment. The question of 'states rights' is not involved. If the regulation of transportation facilities privately owned should fall government ownership must follow, and then all power of the states over the railroads would disappear."

"Let us debate this question, then, not upon any mere theory or jealousy as to the distribution of governmental power, but upon the large issue of what the public interest requires in respect of the assurance of adequate transportation service."

THE NEW MAIL

By MAY HAWKINS.

She got off the Broadway car at the identical minute that he got on and she opened her silk umbrella at the same instant that he closed his. There was a sound of tearing and a six-inch aperture appeared in hers, through which daylight and rain came pouring. "Oh, I beg your pardon," said he, "I'm terribly sorry." His eyes were even more apologetic than his voice, his distress evident.

"It's all right," smiled the girl; "it doesn't matter at all." Dick had splendid opportunity to take in the beauty of her dark, reddish gold hair which curled so tantalizingly under the little dark green velvet hat, the gray eyes, smooth skin and the dimple in her left cheek when she smiled.

"You're sure I can do nothing?" he said. "Nothing, thank you." And the girl was gone, leaving Dick standing disconsolately in the rain.

Mrs. Jarvis Howe came into the room looking ready to cry. Her sister looked up in surprise. "Why, what's wrong, Lucy?" "To think that of all days Ellen has to choose this one to go and get sick. Here I've invited the Parks and Murrys and Richard Goddard to dinner tonight because it's your birthday, and now will you tell me who's to serve it? It's bad enough to be left with only one maid, but Ellen was no competent I thought we could manage. Now with her gone will you kindly tell me what I'll do?"

"Call it off." "No, I've invited those people and they wouldn't understand."

"All right. Go ahead. Why are you having Richard Goddard?"

Mrs. Howe shrugged her pretty shoulders. "Why anybody? I asked him for you. Look here, May, I wish you'd stop making grimaces whenever I ask him around. Richard Goddard is rich."

"And young?"

"Well?"

"Too young for me."

Her sister shrugged impatiently and went to the phone. "Send some one right away, please," she instructed the manager of the employment agency that she called up, "who is competent and can cook. And a serving maid also. What! None to be had today? Well, send the cook anyway."

"I'll have to take a chance on the serving," she said, turning wearily away. "I can coach the cook about serving perhaps, and bribe her into doing her best."

At four the cook arrived. Mrs. Howe, who had been watching anxiously, could have kissed her. "What's she like?" drawled May later.

"I don't know. She's pretty—but her clothes. I'll have to go and dig up a black dress and white cap and apron of Ellen's for her. But if she can cook I won't worry about the serving."

And she could cook! The dinner guests came and Dick Goddard attached himself to May. To please her sister she had done her best with her toilet and was as interesting as any one could wish. Mrs. Howe was jubilant.

"Dinner is served, Mrs. Howe," announced the maid from the doorway. The guests took their places in the dining room and all went merrily.

Then in came the new maid with the soup. In the shadowy candle light Richard did not notice her at first, but as she put Mrs. Park's plate before her the light fell on her reddish gold hair and her gray eyes looked full into Dick's.

"You!" he cried, and at the evident surprise of the few who had noticed, he coughed and went on: "You were speaking of the Army and Navy game, Mrs. Murray. Well, I saw—" and on he went. But he was greatly bewildered. Surely this was the girl of the umbrella.

The soup was served and the plates removed without catastrophe, the fish and dinner course passed without event. But Mrs. Howe was growing a bit nervous. Twice the girl had laughed broadly at a table joke and said something when a fork was dropped.

The salad was uneventful. But when the ice was served the dozen tiny candles on the cake lighted, and May gave a large silver knife to cut the first slice, the maid asked audibly, "How old are you, Miss May?"

"I'm twenty-seven," answered May, truthfully.

"Why did you do it?" Dick Goddard got on the car the new maid had boarded with her suitcase next morning.

"I'm writing a book."

"But you did a dreadful thing," Dick grinned.

"To tell you that Mrs. Howe was trying to get you for a girl three years older than you? Besides, I didn't do it, she did it herself."

"There wasn't any danger after yesterday," returned Dick. "After I saw your umbrella I kicked myself all day for letting you go."

"Well, here's where I have you again," said the girl. "I have to get off now. Goodbye."

Dick picked up her bag. "Not if I know it. Where are you going, forever, now?" "I'm going," said the girl, blushing and smiling her consent. (Copyright, 1916, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

"LIKE MOTHER MADE"

By FANNY GRAY.

Nathan Leach was a spoiled only son when Lena Clark married him. His mother had slaved for him all his life, and but for the fact that his was a naturally sunny, unselfish nature, his upbringing would have spelled ruination.

On the whole, however, he was a pretty good sport, and Lena, who had married him with her eyes open, had little cause for complaint. Naturally, he had imbibed the idea that it was woman's place to do all she could to please man, especially to cater to his stomach; for "mother" had always striven to gratify his appetite, and many a time, when scarcely able, had slaved over a hot stove to get up a meal that should please him and his father.

Now Lena was something of a cook herself, and rather proud of it, though she did yield the palm to her mother-in-law in some things. When they were first married, Nathan had complimented her highly; but, after a time, he had become more critical, and unconsciously fell into the habit of comparing his own table with his mother's.

Lena took it good naturedly, always had a ready answer and so friction was avoided. But the habit grew until it became a very pernicious one, and Lena woke up at last to realize that she never served a meal that did not bring forth some comment or criticism.

She turned the situation over and over in her mind, wondering how she could meet it.

Finally she hit upon a plan. Nathan's mother was a pretty good sort, after all. And, although she had been weak and had spoiled her son, she recognized the fact and regretted it. Knowing this, Lena decided to go to her for help in her trouble.

She laid the case before her, and the older woman entered into her plan most readily.

A few days after Lena's conference with Mrs. Leach, Nathan received a letter from his mother, who lived several miles away, stating that she would arrive on the next day to pay them a visit of a week.

The next morning, at breakfast, after a slightly adverse comment on the coffee, Nathan began: "I do hope you'll be real careful, Lena, about the cooking while mother's here. She's a right smart hand at it is mother, and I shouldn't want her to think I wasn't havin' as good victuals as she used to set before me."

Mrs. Leach arrived. Dinner the first day passed off very well, but afterward Nathan took occasion to say, when he and Lena were alone, "Say, Lena, if there's one thing mother can cook it's beefsteak, and that we had today wasn't up to the mark—not by a good deal."

"That so?" said Lena quietly. "Well, I didn't see anything the matter with it. Your mother ate her share all right, and acted as if she liked it, too."

"Oh, she'd seem to. You know that. But I tell you it was overdone."

Lena didn't answer, and Nathan said no more then. But similar scenes took place during the whole of his mother's visit. Possibly he criticized a little less openly than he had been doing at the table, but Lena had to listen to complaints and comparisons till it was a wonder how good-naturedly she bore it.

Sometimes, in the presence of both, he would refer to the things "mother used to make," half jokingly, or ask Lena to get the recipe for this thing or that.

On the last day of Mrs. Leach's stay, Nathan came in at noon to find Lena lying down on the sofa and his mother ready to take up the dinner and serve him. In response to inquiries, Lena made light of her indisposition, and even ventured the statement that she was feeling so much better maybe she would come to the table.

"Your mother got the dinner, Nathan," she said, as Mrs. Leach was taking up the breakfast and vegetables. "I am sure you'll enjoy it."

"You bet I will," agreed Nathan, drawing up his chair. "Seems just as if I was at home again."

Everything came in for praise. Never was steak so exactly right, potatoes couldn't be more nicely, and as for the hot biscuits and rhubarb pie—well, they were perfect.

Nathan drove his mother home in the cool of the early evening. When he returned, Lena, having recovered remarkably well from her illness of the morning, sat on the piazza, waiting for him.

There was something she wanted to say, but, somehow, now the moment had come, she couldn't seem to find the right words. But her mother-in-law had done all the enlightening for her.

Nathan felt his way in the dark to the chair near her, and both kept silent for a few moments. Then Mrs. Leach spoke: "Mother told me all about how you and she have made a fool of me all this week—her doing all the cooking and mother of you letting on that what it was you. Well, I don't know but I deserved it. Anyhow, she says I did. I guess I was kinder taller than her."

"This being a good deal from Nathan, Lena met him half way."

"I always knew you didn't make it, Nathan, but I used to hear, and the more I heard, the more I was angry at the idea. Let's start all over again."

Liver Trouble Signs

Headache, dizziness, bad taste in the mouth, bad breath, bad complexion, coated tongue, etc., are all signs of liver trouble—of clogging up of the natural health channels, by overflow of bile, indigestion, etc. If you suffer from any of these disagreeable symptoms; if your meals don't taste right; if your appetite is poor; if the food you eat doesn't digest, the first thing to do is to purify your system with a general, cathartic, liver medicine. For more than 75 years

THEDFORD'S

Black - Draught

the vegetable liver medicine, has been in successful use for just such troubles.

Mrs. John Simonson, of McLeansboro, Ill., says: "Thedford's Black-Draught is surely a fine medicine. I have taken it for liver and kidney troubles, also headache and it beats any medicine I know of. It cured me of these troubles. I would not be without it in the house."

Try this remedy for yourself. At all dealers. Costs only 25c a package, one cent a dose.

NOTICE.

I am now prepared to supply your needs and requirements in

Flour and Feed

Am located in the Wareroom near where my mill stood. Have both phones and will make town deliveries the same as before my mill burned. Those who have wheat on deposit with me can now get Flour and Bran as they need it. I am handling the best Flour I can buy and now have a carload of Sweet Home Flour which is manufactured by the largest milling company in St. Louis. This Flour took first premium at the St. Louis World's Fair. For 5c or 10c more you can get a sack of Flour that is absolutely guaranteed.

24 pounds will sell for \$1.25
48 pounds will sell for \$2.45

Special prices in barrel lots.

I will handle this Flour until my new mill is completed and will appreciate your phone orders.

Good Corn Chops will sell for \$2.10 per 100 pounds
Soft wheat Bran in new sack, \$1.65 per 100 pounds
Ear Corn, per bushel \$1.05

Cotton Seed Meal, \$1.60 per hundred pound sack.

I contracted for this meal 3 months ago and am going to give my customers the advantage of my good buying and sell for above price. It cannot be bought to-day in carload lots for less than \$1.80 or \$1.90 per 100 pounds.

Cotton Seed Meal is considered one of the best cow and hog feeds on the market, and owing to its richness will go farther and last longer than shorts.

To those who are interested in Electric Lights, will say that I expect to have them running by December Fifteenth.

P. J. BURFORD.

PILES CURED

WITHOUT THE KNIFE

Protruding Piles, Itching Piles, Bleeding Piles, Piles with Pain and all diseases of the Rectum cured without a painful operation.

YOU PAY NOTHING UNTIL CURED. My treatment is mild, absolutely reliable and permanent. Write to or call and see the various places named I submit to this advertisement, they live in years, or submit to this treatment. I cured many cases of hemorrhoids, piles, and all diseases of the Rectum. Write to-day. I will send you a free book for my 30-page FREE BOOK for men and my 97 page book for women. I will send them to you free of charge. These books contain much information of great value to you and are filled with plain or any form of rectal trouble, and hundreds of testimonials from letters. Whether you take treatment or not you are welcome to both books. Write to-day. I will send you.

Entrance 991 Pine St.
M. NEY SMITH, M. D., ST. LOUIS, MO.

Stop That Cough

A hacking cough weakens the whole system, drains your energy and gets worse if neglected; your throat is raw, your chest aches and you feel sore all over. Relieve that cold at once with Dr. King's New Discovery. The soothing pine balsam heals the irritated membranes, and the antiseptic and laxative qualities kill the germs and break up your cold. Don't let a cold linger. Get Dr. King's New Discovery to-day at your Druggist, Etc.

Neglected Colds Grow Worse

A cough that sticks and irritates the throat may lead to a serious chronic cough, if neglected. The healing pine balsam in Dr. Bell's Pine Tar Honey—Nature's own remedy—will soothe and relieve the irritation, something will be done, and the antiseptic properties will kill the germ which retarded healing. It is handy for croup, sore throat and chronic bronchial affections. Get a bottle to-day. Pleasant to take. At all Druggists, Etc.

Sloan's Liniment Eases Pain

Sloan's Liniment is first thought of mothers for bumps, bruises and sprains that are continually happening to children. It quickly penetrates and soothes without rubbing. Cleaner and more effective than many plasters or ointments. For rheumatic aches, neuralgia, pain and that grippy soreness after colds, Sloan's Liniment gives prompt relief. Have a bottle handy for bruises, strains, sprains and all external pains. For the thousands whose work calls them outdoors, the pains and aches following exposure are relieved by Sloan's Liniment. At all Druggists, Etc.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA